



Thursday, Oct. 11-  
[1849?]

Dear Dr. Torrey,

How good &  
kind you are to have  
taken so much pains  
for me!—

I was admiring  
most especially the ex-  
quisite look of those  
sackel pears before your  
letter came, & if there  
were an agricultural

Shew about here just now,  
I should be tempted

To send in specimens  
of all kinds, quite sure  
of gaining the first  
prize. —

I shall begin to think  
however you & Jane have  
either designs on our  
temperance, or rather  
great confidence in our  
virtues, what with  
liquors & brandied fruit!

At any rate Mrs. Gray  
gets a famous reputation  
for a great many nice  
things, when she is no  
peacock but only a jay  
after all. —

I hope you mean to  
come on & make us another  
visit before long. And tell  
Herby with my love, that  
I count on him for Xmas. —  
I suppose farming is  
through then. —

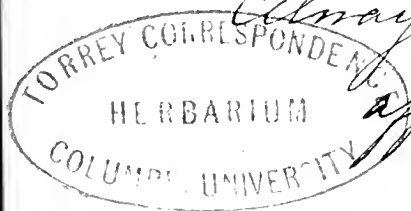
The jars all came in  
most admirable order,  
they were packed so  
beautifully - And thank  
you very much for all  
your kind directions, I  
shall keep them by me -

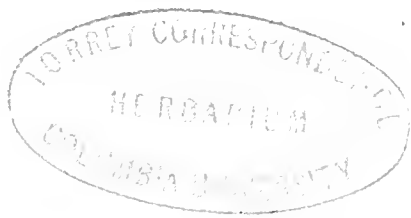
With much love to  
all,

Believe me your very  
affectionate

Jane P. Gray -

Dr. Torrey -





Conrillas House. Oct. 4th. 1850

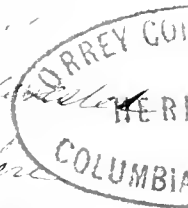
Dear Dr. Torrey,

Dr. Gray being hard at work with Mr. Bentham, has commissioned me to write for him to you, & ask you where the specimens can be sent you notified Mr. Bentham you had sent to Sir Wm. Hooker. They have not yet arrived, & they wish to know how they were sent - & to trace if possible the cause of the delay.

We arrived here last Tuesday evening, & are greatly astonished for the present in this rural & quaint old house. There is something quite imposing for an American, in living in a house built 300 years ago! - Mr. & Mrs. Bentham are charming people, & receive us most kindly - And Dr. Gray & Mr. Bentham are already deep in Exploring Expedition plants.

We had a delightful tour in the continent, though we were obliged, to our great disappointment, to give up the Italian Lakes & the Alps - for want of time - I do not know when Dr. Gray last wrote to you, but I think not since we left Munich, so I may be safe from repetition if I say anything about our visit to Holland - Thierlot was very kind to us in Munich - & gave us all the news from Schimper, where he was staying with his family, & we only regretted that we had not more time there. For there is so very much to see in the galleries & churches, &c.

We came down the Rhine, stopping at Cologne to see the magnificent Cathedral, to Düsseldorf & Bonn. & so to Amsterdam - Dr. van der Meulen & Dr. Meijer, & Dr. very agreeable surprise found Robert Brown with him. We passed a very agreeable evening at Dr. Traugott's with him & some of the other professors there. And the next morning they visited together the Botanic Garden. There is a very fine gallery of paintings at Amsterdam containing many works of the Dutch Masters, and I was exceedingly interested in them. From Amsterdam we went to Leyden where we saw Prof. de Frise - Thunberg was not at home, but Dr. Schultes his assistant was very attentive. We visited there the Museum, which is especially valuable in skeletons & birds. Then we went to the Museum of Dr. Sibbold - he does not live at Leyden, where he only makes occasional visits, but on the Rhine - The museum is a most interesting collection of Japanese things of every sort, from temples & idols to cooking utensils, & the wonder & pleasure is somewhat increased on looking at them from the idea that the poor man's head would have been taken off if he had been discovered in carrying away from the country one of the old pieces of money, to say nothing of the ship load of other things of every sort & description. We made an excursion to the Hague to see the interior of painting there. And Sunday Prof. took a stroll in the old Botanic garden of Leyden, adorned with busts of animals, fountains, &c. & boasting a tree mentioned by Virgil. The one that Boerhaave planted is unhappily blown down. We visited the ancient room in the Academy, hung with the portraits of all



CORRESPONDENCE  
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the old professor for many, many years. And passed a  
very pleasant time with Mr. & Mrs. Jones's family. He returned  
with Mrs. Brown from Utrecht & Amsterdam soon after  
we were there. He saw in the day the old church  
where Ruysdael, Boornvoet, & so many distinguished men  
are buried, & went in to find the monuments. They  
were all exceedingly simple, & quite without high sounding  
epitaphs. He left London for Rotterdam early Monday  
morning, & on Tuesday took the steamer for London, which  
reached after about 24 hours passage over a most beau-  
tiful, pleasant sea. In London we were glad to meet my  
Aunt, Mrs. Sewell with all the family, on their way to Paris.  
And most agreeable too, Mrs. Harvey was there. Dr. Gray  
saw Dr. Booth several times. He has been sick again. And  
Sir Wm. Hooker has been very dangerously ill. He is now  
recovering, though ~~quite~~ <sup>slowly</sup> ~~fast~~. But is still at the sea shore,  
where he has been for some weeks past. He had only a  
hurried visit of a few days in London. Dr. Gray was eager  
to get down here & late to work. He was, indeed, I think  
now much in strength. I think now we must see how  
he gets on about letters so long a time. As for me  
I am wonderfully better than when I left home, though  
not quite so well as last week or two. I took a heavy  
cold in Munich, for we suffered much with the cold  
weather there. But I can walk 3 or 4 miles now with  
great comfort.

about the trigonometrical

Dr. Gray says Mr. Bentham has written to Mr. Smith, at  
New, but during Dr. Smith's absence, has heard nothing as yet.

About midnight, as I lay in bed, I write to you that - we  
wish to have some funds for our work - and hopes  
Dr. Short will be induced to assist him - and asks you to  
manage the correspondence with him - He will try to write  
himself before long to you -

The parcel from Mr. Grayson you will please send  
to Putnam, with directions to forward it to Dr. J. A. Gray -

As for the *Juncea calif.* & *fil. lanula*, Mr. Bentham  
fell to comparing them at once - And then are not at all  
the same thing, though the leaves resemble much, the flowers are quite different -  
Dr. Gray says you gave Mr. B. a great  
fright for nothing - He was quite startled -

Dr. Gray says he has not written you since Antwerp;  
so that I should have commenced with a sketch of  
our charming tour through Switzerland - It is too late  
now, to tell Eliza - While save that for an answer to  
her letter which I hope may be coming soon -

You will see we did not get back in time for  
the Association - Mr. Arnold was there, he told us -

Your letter contained many nice accounts of Sunday  
things - Our home letters are, generally too full of home  
news to contain much of what is going on in general -

With very afc. love to your mother & the girls & Herbert,  
I remain, sincerely, affely,



Dr. Gray begs you to send him soon as you receive this, the  
proofs of the last of Gray's drawings for Fremont - He wishes to show Mr.  
B. the new species. - And please send Wright's mosses &c. to Sullivant, the  
fungi to Putnam to forward to Dr. Curtis, & the lichens to Cambridge for Suckers -  
Man who will be at home or soon after this letter gets there -





Clinton's House

Sept. 14. 1880

Dear Dr. Gray,

Dr. Gray makes me  
to enclose in my letter to you, a  
short note telling you that we  
heard, through a note from Dr.  
Wm. Hooker recd on Saturday,  
that he had received a package  
from Mrs. Hooker (which contains  
the *Erigeron*) & that it would  
very soon be so placed as to be for-  
warded to Mr. Benthams - viz. via  
note from Yarmouth, but expected to  
return to Kew in a few days, being  
much improved in health

Dr. Gray & Mr. Benthams are very

hard at work - But it is a slow  
business -

Mr. Jones says there is a certain  
time of month out since his  
death -

He is very much interested

Similar to

With love to your family  
circle,

I am very truly yours,

Sam L. May.



At the ...

Princeton.

New Jersey.

